

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

CHARLES D.J. BARNES,

Plaintiff,

vs.

No. CV 20-00935 WJ/JHR

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS,

Defendant.

**PRO SE PRISONER CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER**  
**AND ORDER DENYING PENDING MOTION**

THIS MATTER is before the Court *sua sponte*. The Court has received and docketed the prisoner's civil rights complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 filed pro se by Plaintiff Charles D.J. Barnes. Plaintiff shall include the case number, CV 20-00935 WJ/JHR on all papers filed in this proceeding.

Plaintiff must comply with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Local Rules of this Court, and any Order of the Court. Failure to comply with the Rules or Court Orders may result in dismissal of this case or other sanctions. Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b); *see, also, Ogden v. San Juan County*, 32 F.3d 452, 455 (10th Cir.1994). Plaintiff is obligated to keep the Court advised of any changes in Plaintiff's mailing addresses. Failure to keep the Court informed of Plaintiff's correct address may also result in dismissal of the case or other sanctions. D.N.M. LR-Civ. 83.6.

Because Plaintiff is a prisoner proceeding pro se, the Court is obligated to conduct a preliminary screening of the Complaint. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915A. Whenever a prisoner brings a civil action against government officials, the Court is obligated to screen the prisoner's complaint or petition. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A. Section 1915A states:

“The court shall review, before docketing, if feasible or, in any event, as soon as practicable after docketing, a complaint in a civil action in which a prisoner seeks redress from a governmental entity or officer or employee of a governmental entity.”

...

On review, the court shall identify cognizable claims or dismiss the complaint, or any portion of the complaint, if the complaint—  
(1) is frivolous, malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted; or  
(2) seeks monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief.”

28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a) and (b). The Court has a similar obligation to screen the complaint when a pro se plaintiff is proceeding without prepayment of fees and costs under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2):

“Notwithstanding any filing fee, or any portion thereof, that may have been paid, the court shall dismiss the case at any time if the court determines that—  
(A) the allegation of poverty is untrue; or  
(B) the action or appeal—  
(i) is frivolous or malicious;  
(ii) fails to state a claim on which relief may be granted; or  
(iii) seeks monetary relief against a defendant who is immune from such relief.

Any request to the Court for relief must be in the form of a motion. Fed. R. Civ. P. 7(b). The filing of excessive motions may cause substantial delay in completion of the Court’s preliminary screening and resolution of the case. Plaintiff should avoid filing unnecessary motions. Requests for service of process, discovery, and submissions of proof and evidence are premature and unavailable prior to the Court’s completion of its screening obligation. *See Jones v. Bock*, 549 U.S. 199, 213-214 (2007). If Plaintiff’s Complaint is not dismissed on initial screening, the Court will enter further orders governing service of process, discovery, and scheduling.

Plaintiff should not send any letters to the Court other than transmittal letters or requests for information or copies. All mail relating to this case must be directed to the Clerk of the Court. Plaintiff is not to send any mail directly to the assigned District Judge or the assigned Magistrate

Judge. Plaintiff also should not make telephone calls to or ask to speak to the assigned District Judge, the assigned Magistrate Judge, or the Judges' staff, nor should Plaintiff ask family members or friends to do so.

Pending before the Court is Plaintiff's Motion demanding an evidentiary hearing. (Doc. 4). Plaintiff's Motion is premature until the Court completes its screening obligation under § 1915A and 1915(e)(2)(B). *Jones v. Bock*, 549 U.S. at 213-214. Therefore, the Court will deny the Motion for an evidentiary hearing (Doc. 4).

**IT IS ORDERED:**

(1) the Motion demanding an evidentiary hearing filed by Plaintiff Charles D. J. Barnes (Doc. 4) is **DENIED** as premature; and

(2) this Case Management Order shall govern proceedings in this case until further order of the Court.



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UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE